

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 14 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as shown below.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A bearing part having a hole portion opening into a surface thereof and hardened at least at said surface by a heat treatment,

wherein said surface has a hardness of HRC60 or more, and a residual compressive stress of said surface is made of 30MPa or less in order to obviate failure in a peripheral area of the hole portion during heat treatment.

Claim 2 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said bearing part is an inner ring or an outer ring.

Claim 3 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said bearing part is a large bearing part having an outside diameter of 300mm or more.

Claim 4 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said bearing part is a large bearing part for use in a steel rolling mill.

Claim 5 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said hole portion is a lubrication hole formed so as to intercommunicate an inner peripheral surface and an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 6 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said hole portion is a lubrication hole formed so as to intercommunicate an inner peripheral surface and an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 7 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said hole portion is a lubrication hole formed so as to intercommunicate an inner peripheral surface and an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 8 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said hole portion is a lubrication hole formed so as to intercommunicate an inner peripheral surface and an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 9 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said hole portion is a bolt hole opening into an inner peripheral surface or an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 10 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said hole portion is a bolt hole opening into an inner peripheral surface or an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 11 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said hole portion is a bolt hole opening into an inner peripheral surface or an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 12 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said hole portion is a bolt hole opening into an inner peripheral surface or an outer peripheral surface of the bearing part.

Claim 13 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steel is a bearing steel.

Claims 14 and 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steel is a case hardening steel subjected to carburizing hardening as said heat treatment.

Claim 17 (original): A bearing part as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steel is a carbon steel for machine structural use subjected to induction hardening as said heat treatment.

Claim 18 (original): A fabrication method for the bearing part of Claim 1, the method comprising a heat treatment step following a drill work for drilling a steel intermediate material thereby forming the hole portion opening into the surface thereof, wherein the intermediate material is heated to a predetermined temperature and then is quenched and wherein the quenching is terminated at the point of time that a temperature at a portion corresponding to a depth from the surface of said bearing part, to which depth the maximum shear stress affects, is lowered to an MS point at which martensitic transformation starts and then, the intermediate material is air cooled.

Claim 19 (original): A fabrication method for the bearing part as claimed in Claim 18, wherein provided that the maximum thickness of said bearing part is expressed as t , the quenching is carried out until the temperature at the portion corresponding to a depth of $0.5t$ or less from the surface of the bearing part is lowered to said MS point.

Claim 20 (original): A fabrication method for the bearing part as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said MS point is in the range of 220 to 230°C.